

Human Relations Commission Agenda

The Human Relations Commission is a citizen commission appointed by the Fremont City Council. Human Relations Commission business is conducted in a public forum and operates within the provisions of the Brown Act. Information on the Brown Act may be obtained from the City Clerk's office at 3300 Capitol Avenue (phone 284-4060).

General Order of Business

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|-------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Secretary Check for Quorum | 6. Written Communications | 11. Commission Referrals |
| 2. Call to order – 7:15 p.m. | 7. Announcements | 12. Commission Reports |
| 3. Roll call | 8. Consent Items | 13. Staff Reports |
| 4. Approval of Minutes | 9. Old Business | 14. Referral to Staff |
| 5. Oral Communications | 10. New Business | 15. Adjournment |

Order of Discussion

Generally, the order of discussion after introduction of an item by the Chair will include comments and information by staff followed by Human Relations Commissions questions, inquiries or discussion. The applicant, authorized representative, or interested citizens may then speak on the item. At the close of public discussion, the item will be considered by the Commission and action taken.

Oral Communications

Any person desiring to speak on a matter which is not scheduled on this agenda may do so under Oral Communications. The Human Relations Commission will take no action on an item which does not appear on the agenda. The item will be agendized for the next regular meeting or at a special meeting called in accordance with the terms of the Brown Act. The Human Relations Commission may establish time limits of presentations.

Information

Regular scheduled meetings of the Human Relations Commission are conducted at 3300 Capitol Avenue in City Council Chambers. Meetings are held at 7:15 on the third Monday of the month. Meetings may be tape recorded at the discretion of the Chair.

Copies of the Agenda are available at the Human Services Department at 3300 Capitol Avenue three days preceding the regularly scheduled meeting.

Assistance will be provided to those requiring accommodations for disabilities in compliance with the American Disabilities Act of 1990. Interested persons must request the accommodation at least 2 working days in advance of the meeting by contacting Human Services Department at (510) 574-2050.



Information about the City or items scheduled on the Agenda may be referred to:

Suzanne Shenfil, Director
Human Services Department
3300 Capitol Ave.
Fremont, CA 94538
(510) 574-2051

Arquimides Caldera, Deputy Director
Human Services Department
3300 Capitol Ave.
Fremont, CA 94538
(510) 574-2056

Your interest in the conduct of your City's business is appreciated.

Human Relations Commission

Dharminder Dewan
Tejinder Dhami
Beth Hoffman
Paddy Iyer
Lance Kwan
John Nguyen-Cleary
John Smith
Veeru Vuppala, Vice-Chair
Debra Watanuki, Chair

City Staff

Suzanne Shenfil, Human Services Director
Arquimides Caldera, Deputy Human Services
Director
MaryLou Johnson, Recording Secretary

Mission Statement

The City of Fremont's Human Relations Commission promotes and helps create a community environment in which all men, women and children, regardless of race, religion, national origin, gender, disability or sexual orientation, may live, learn, work and play in harmony.

AGENDA
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 27, 2013
TRAINING ROOM
3300 CAPITOL AVE., BUILDING B
FREMONT, CALIFORNIA
7:15 P.M.

1. **SECRETARY CALL FOR QUORUM**

2. **CALL TO ORDER**

3. **ROLL CALL**

Welcome New Commissioners: Paddy Iyer, John Smith, and Lance Kwan

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** of November 18, 2013 and December 15, 2013,

5. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

6. **WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

8. **CONSENT ITEMS** (Routine items requiring no discussion; any Commissioner or member of the public can ask for a consent item to be moved to the regular agenda to allow for discussion)

9. **OLD BUSINESS**

9.1 CAHRO Northern California Regional Conference

BACKGROUND: The California Association of Human Relations Organizations (CAHRO) will hold its annual state-wide convening in Northern California on April 24-25, 2014. The San Francisco Human Rights Commission (SFHRC) has agreed to host, and requested that other commissions help with planning the event, which was attended by 80 people last year. Both Santa Clara County and Sonoma County are interested in co-hosting.

On December 18, 2013, the SFHRC held a planning meeting to discuss logistics and possible themes and discussion topics. The SFHRC is aware of the Fremont HRC's interest in providing some level of support for the conference. The SFHRC has also listed the Sisters of the Holy Family as possible presenters on a Human Trafficking topic. Staff has enclosed notes from the meeting for the Commission's review.

Enclosure: Enc. 9.1.1 - 12-18-13 SFHRC CAHRO Convening Planning Mtg Notes

RECOMMENDATION: Receive update from staff and the Commissioners that attended the December 18 meeting; and add tentative date to all calendars.

9.2 FY 2013-2014 Social Services Grant Mid-Year Evaluation Process

BACKGROUND: One of the roles of the Commission is to provide recommendations to the City Council regarding social service needs and City funding for non-profit social service agencies. Last year, the Human Relations Commission recommended (and Council approved) 15 agencies for three years of funding, assuming satisfactory performance and continued availability of funds. The current 2013-14 fiscal year is the first year of the three-year funding cycle.

As part of the performance review of agencies, staff will be conducting midyear evaluations in January and February of 2014. The review is comprised of three parts: a site visit, an evaluation form completed by the staff visiting the agency and a questionnaire completed by the agency. Commissioners generally attend at least one midyear site visit as a way to become more familiar with individual agencies. This is an especially good way for new Commissioners to learn about the work of the various non-profits.

Enclosure: Mid-year evaluation visit sign-up sheets, showing current Commissioner/agency pairings, including dates and times.

RECOMMENDATION: Review Sign-up sheets. Sign up to visit at least two grantees, prioritizing unscheduled grantees.

9.3 Film Screening: Matthew Shepard is a Friend of Mine

BACKGROUND: On December 15, the Commission held a special meeting to screen the film Matthew Shepard is a Friend of Mine, for the purpose of assessing whether the HRC would like to sponsor a public screening. Matthew Shepard was a young gay man who was kidnapped, tortured and left for dead in a Wyoming field in 1998. The film depicts the journey of director Michele Josue, as she tries to connect with other friends and family of Mr. Shepard, in hopes of better understanding his life.

At the meeting, the Commission unanimously voted to direct staff and commissioners to carry out actions necessary to sponsor the film screening and dialogue with a target date of Thursday, March 20, 2014. Commissioner Hoffman has contacted the non-profit organization Facing History and Ourselves, regarding facilitating the discussion portion of the event. Chair Watanuki is exploring Washington Hospital as an option for the screening.

Enclosure: None

RECOMMENDATIONS: Receive update from Commissioners and staff regarding the location, date, and facilitator for the proposed event.

9.4 Human Services Department Orientation

BACKGROUND: The Human Services Department's (HSD) nationally and internationally recognized services support thousands of residents throughout their life course from infants to elders. Its youth services stimulate healthy development and lifestyle choices. Services for families help them navigate crisis situations and become economically successful. Services for older adults and their families help them maintain independence and involvement in the community.

Staff believes it would be valuable for the Commission to have a comprehensive understanding of the services HSD provides to South County residents. Staff is preparing an orientation of the Department's services for the Commission. Staff anticipates the orientation would last approximately two hours, and is suggesting it occur early in the morning at the Senior Center, so that the City could provide breakfast from the Senior Center kitchen.

Enclosure: None

RECOMMENDATION: Provide availability and schedule a date and time to hold a Human Services Department Orientation.

9.5 HRC Planning Retreat

BACKGROUND: The commission has expressed interest in holding a strategic planning retreat as their March 2014 meeting. Chair Watanuki has spoken to Sister Patricia Walsh from the Dominican Sisters, and has reported that the Dominican Sisters are willing to let the HRC use their campus for our meeting for free.

Enclosure: None

RECOMMENDATION: Commission to decide on a date for a planning retreat.

10. **NEW BUSINESS** (Items on which the Commission has not yet had an agendaized discussion or taken action)

10.1 Fremont Fair Housing Presentation

BACKGROUND: At the direction of the Commission, staff has asked Anne Marquart, Executive Director at Project Sentinel, to speak about the recent alleged incident of housing discrimination at the Woodland Garden Apartments in Fremont. Ms. Marquart will explain Project Sentinel's role in this incident and what efforts can be taken at the local, state and federal level to resolve these types of issues in the future.

Enclosure: Enc. 10.1.1 – October 29, 2013 Article – Alleged Fair Housing Discrimination at Woodland Garden Apartments

RECOMMENDATION: Receive Presentation and provide feedback.

10.2 Hate Crime Brochure

BACKGROUND: Lieutenant Robert Lanci, from the Fremont Police Department is in the process of updating the City's Hate Crimes policies and has requested the Commission review, edit and approve an updated hate crimes brochure. The Commission and staff have been involved in the editing of the brochure in the past.

Staff has reviewed and updated the general information found in the brochure.

Enclosure: 10.3.1 – Hate Crimes Brochure

RECOMMENDATION: Review the brochure, provide feedback and approve the brochure, including any appropriate edits.

11. **COMMISSION REFERRALS** (Referrals from the City Council to the Commission)

12. **STANDING AND ADHOC COMMITTEE REPORTS** (Oral reports on relevant meetings/events)

12.1 Social Service Agency Outreach Committee

BACKGROUND: A committee consisting of Commissioner Dhami, along with the rest of the Commission, works to:

- a. Review, evaluate and oversee the Social Service Grant Program
- c. Conduct workshops and/or forums which are beneficial to local non profits.

RECOMMENDATION: Receive committee update.

12.2 Events Committee

BACKGROUND: A Committee consisting of Chair Watanuki, Vice-Chair Vuppala, and Commissioners Dewan and Hoffman, works to coordinate HRC sponsored events, such as Make a Difference Day (MADD), the SF Pride Parade Float, and Film Screenings.

RECOMMENDATION: Receive update on upcoming events.

12.3 Community Outreach Committee

BACKGROUND: All Commissioners work to participate in community events that improve the visibility of the HRC and its role in the City.

RECOMMENDATION: Receive update on upcoming events.

12.4 HRC Award Committee

BACKGROUND: A committee consisting of Vice-Chair Vuppala and Commissioner Dhami, works to sponsor an award to recognize individuals who have made outstanding voluntary contributions for the common good and/or sustainable change in the community.

RECOMMENDATION: Discuss the Commission's interest in this project for calendar year 2014.

12.5 Friends of the HRC Committee

BACKGROUND: A committee consisting of Chair Watanuki and Commissioner Dewan, works to partner with other organizations and represent the HRC on external working groups.

At the October meeting, Commissioner Dewan agreed to attend the Family Resource Center's Community Advisory and Engagement Board (CAEB) meeting as the HRC's representative.

RECOMMENDATION: Receive Committee report.

12.6 Other Commission Updates

13. STAFF REPORTS

- 13.1 Attendance Summary (**Attachment 13.1**)
- 13.2 Calendar (**Attachment 13.2**) of HRC regular/special meetings and events.
- 13.3 Update on Referral to Staff regarding NAMI Presentation. Item moved to March 17, 2014 Meeting.

- 14. REFERRALS TO STAFF** (a request to have items placed on a future Commission agenda as an item of new business. A vote against means it will be dropped without consideration).

15. ADJOURNMENT